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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



In re U.S. Patent Application of

Timothy P. COLEMAN et al.

Serial No.: 09/495,947

Filed: 2 February 2000

Group Art Unit: 1633

Examiner: C. Drabik

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For: ADVANCED ANTIGEN PRESENTATION PLATFORM

REPLY AND AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This is a reply to the Office Action (Paper No. 12) mailed on 23 July 2001. With the accompanying petition for extension of time and payment of the appropriate fees, the deadline for this response is 23 January 2002. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present rejections and reexamination of the present application in view of the following amendments and remarks.

AMENDMENTS

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Kindly delete the entire paragraph beginning at page 17, line 26 and insert therefor:

B'

In preferred embodiments of the present invention, the regions into which the haptens may be inserted are those which, upon particle assembly, will elicit an immune response to the hapten. In a preferred embodiment of the present invention, the amino acids comprising the haptens are inserted in a manner such that they replace an equal number of amino acids of the recombinant monomer. In other embodiments, fewer or more or no recombinant monomer amino acids may be replaced by the hapten. In general, haptens of about 10 to 30 amino acids in length may be efficaciously inserted into a recombinant monomer. However, haptens of greater or lesser length may also be inserted.